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ORIGIN AF-01

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	EUR-01
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01
	SNP-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	PMB-00	DRL-09	G-01	/037R			

DRAFTED BY: AF/C:MEGRANDFIELD:MEG

APPROVED BY: AF:EBRYNN

AF/C:RJFENDRICK

AR/C:KAISTON

AF/S:MBRENAN

EUR/NE:EBROCKING

S/S:MNROBINSON

NSCS: KAKENNEY

S/S-O:SEISENBRAUN

-----4E1D9A 040230Z /38

O P 040223Z JUN 94

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

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USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 149032

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, RW, BY, BE, SA, CG

SUBJECT: BELGIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES
RWANDA, BURUNDI AND ZAIRE WITH AF ACTING A/S BRYNN

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. IN A MAY 27 MEETING WITH AF ACTING A/S ED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 4 JUN 2016

DATE/CASE ID: 06 MAY 2011 201005065

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BRYNN, FRANS ROELANTS, BELGIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SHOCK OVER THE CONTINUED VIOLENCE IN RWANDA AND SOUGHT U.S. VIEWS ON HOW TO END THE KILLING. ROELANTS ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE UNAMIR DEPLOYMENT THROUGH BURUNDI AND CONFIRMED THAT THE RPF IS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE RWANDAN ARMY, BUT NOT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT. BRYNN INFORMED ROELANTS THAT VISITING SOUTH AFRICAN FIRST DEPUTY EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT THABO MBEKI HAD TOLD VICE PRESIDENT GORE THAT HE WOULD URGE HIS GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER PROVIDING 50 APC'S TO UNAMIR. END SUMMARY.

3. FRANS ROELANTS, DEPUTY TO BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CLAES, CALLED ON ACTING AF A/S EDWARD BRYNN MAY 27. AF/C DEPUTY DIRECTOR REED FENDRICK ALSO ATTENDED, AS DID AF/C AND EUR/NE DESK OFFICERS AND BELGIAN EMBASSY AFRICA

WATCHER BERTRAND DE CROMBRUGGHE. BRYNN ARRIVED PART WAY THROUGH THE MEETING, HAVING BEEN DELAYED AT A WHITE HOUSE MEETING. ROELANTS OPENED THE MEETING BY SAYING THAT THE
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BELGIAN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC WERE SHOCKED BY THE VIOLENCE IN RWANDA, AND BY THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE COUNTRY HAD FALLEN INTO CHAOS. HE NOTED THAT UNTIL APRIL, BELGIUM HAD CONSIDERED RWANDA TO BE ONE OF THE MORE STABLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, AND A PLACE WHERE REAL DEVELOPMENT WAS STARTING TO TAKE HOLD. ALTHOUGH THE GOB RECOGNIZED THAT ETHNIC TENSION WAS ALWAYS PRESENT IN RWANDA, NOBODY REALIZED HOW QUICKLY AN EXPLOSION COULD OCCUR.

4. ROELANTS OBSERVED THAT THE BIGGEST DIFFICULTY IN RWANDA NOW IS TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET THE KILLING TO STOP. HE SAID THAT BELGIUM SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SAFE ZONES ALONG RWANDA'S BORDERS AS DISCUSSED IN THE MAY 13 TRILATERALS IN BRUSSELS, AND ASKED WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY PROGRESS ON THIS AT THE UN. FENDRICK REPORTED ON THE MEETING HELD MAY 26 WITH KOFI ANNAN AT THE UN, AND SAID THAT THE UN NOW AGREES WITH THE U.S. ASSESSMENT THAT THE SITUATION AT KIGALI AIRPORT IS TOO DANGEROUS FOR TROOPS TO LAND THERE. FENDRICK EXPLAINED THAT WE ARE SUGGESTING THAT THE UN ASK THE GOVERNMENTS OF BURUNDI AND UGANDA FOR THEIR AGREEMENT TO ALLOW TROOPS (BURUNDI) AND EQUIPMENT (UGANDA) TO BE DEPLOYED/TRANSPORTED THROUGH THEIR TERRITORY INTO RWANDA.

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5. ROELANTS AND FENDRICK DISCUSSED CONCERNS ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI WOULD AGREE TO HAVING UNAMIR TROOPS DEPLOY THROUGH BURUNDI. FENDRICK SAID THAT UP UNTIL NOW, PARTS OF THE GRB HAVE INDICATED THAT IT WOULD NOT ALLOW TROOPS TO STAGE FROM BURUNDI UNTIL A CEASEFIRE WAS IN PLACE, BUT THAT THE U.S. HOPED THAT IF THE UN DIRECTLY REQUESTS BURUNDI'S COOPERATION, THE GRB

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WILL AGREE TO DEPLOYMENT THROUGH BURUNDI. ROELANTS RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BUJUMBURA AIRPORT COULD HANDLE A LARGE UNAMIR DEPLOYMENT, AND FENDRICK SAID THAT WE HAD OFFERED TO PROVIDE LOGISTICS SUPPORT TO THE GRB FOR AN UPCOMING SERIES OF 83 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FLIGHTS NOW SCHEDULED TO LAND AT BUJUMBURA STARTING JUNE 1.

6. FENDRICK INFORMED ROELANTS OF THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SECRETARY GENERAL BOUTROS GHALI AND PRESIDENT CLINTON CONCERNING U.S. DEMARCHES TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO REINFORCE THE SYG'S CALL FOR TROOPS FOR UNAMIR, AND SAID THAT WE WILL COORDINATE THIS APPROACH WITH THE OAU. ROELANTS REPORTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH THE RPF, AND SAID THAT THE RPF HAS STATED ITS

WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE, BUT NOT WITH THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA. ROELANTS SAID THAT IT IS CLEAR THAT THE RPF WANTS TO PUNISH THE KILLERS IN THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT LATER ON THE RPF WOULD AGREE TO NEGOTIATE WITH HUTU LEADERS NOT INVOLVED IN GENOCIDE. FENDRICK TOLD ROELANTS THAT THE RPF HAS REVISED ITS POSITION AND HAS TOLD THE UN IT WILL NOW ACCEPT THE PLANNED DEPLOYMENT OF UP TO 5,500 UNAMIR TROOPS.

7. IN RESPONSE TO ROELANT'S QUESTION ABOUT THE STATUS OF A POSSIBLE REGIONAL SUMMIT ON RWANDA, FENDRICK SAID THAT AT THIS POINT THE SUMMIT HAS NOT BEEN RESCHEDULED. MOBUTU HAS OFFERED TO HOST A SUMMIT IN GOMA, BUT THE UGANDANS AND KENYANS DO NOT WANT TO GO TO GOMA. FENDRICK ALSO TOLD ROELANTS THERE ARE REPORTS THAT KENYA HAS OFFERED TO HOLD THE SUMMIT IN NAIROBI. (NOTE: NAIROBI 9763 INDICATES THE

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9. ACTING A/S BRYNN JOINED THE MEETING JUST AS THE DISCUSSION TURNED TO BURUNDI. ROELANTS AGREED THAT THE U.S. PLAN OF SENDING FREQUENT HIGH-LEVEL VISITORS TO BURUNDI TO BOLSTER THE GOVERNMENT'S CONFIDENCE WAS A GOOD ONE, AND NOTED THAT BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TO RWANDA SWINNEN WAS CURRENTLY IN THE REGION AND WOULD VISIT BURUNDI. IN RESPONSE TO BRYNN'S QUESTION ON WHETHER BELGIUM WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO A REQUEST FOR RENEWED MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR BURUNDI, ROELANTS SAID THAT BELGIUM WOULD

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AGREE TO ASSIST IF ALL CIVIL AND MILITARY ELEMENTS IN THE
URUNDI GOVERNMENT WERE IN ACCORD ABOUT SUCH ASSISTANCE.

11. BRYNN APOLOGIZED FOR HIS LATE ARRIVAL, EXPLAINING THAT VP GORE'S MEETING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN FIRST DEPUTY EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT THABO MBEKI HAD LASTED MUCH LONGER THAN EXPECTED. BRYNN SAID THAT WHEN THE SUBJECT OF RWANDA CAME UP IN THAT MEETING, THABO MBEKI TOLD VP GORE THAT HE WOULD URGE HIS GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER PROVIDING 50 APC'S TO UNAMIR, AND THAT THE ISSUE WOULD BE ADDRESSED IN PRETORIA AT MID-WEEK.

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12. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. TARNOFF

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